



NEWS RELEASE

NEBRASKA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (NEMA) – 1300 MILITARY ROAD – LINCOLN, NE 68508-1090

Joint Information Center (JIC)

Flood Hotline: (855) 211-2453 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., weekdays

August 15, 2011, 3:10 p.m. CDT

Nebraska JIC Daily Update

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Flood Affected Individuals and Businesses Must Register with FEMA

Lincoln, Neb — A Federal Disaster Declaration for parts of Nebraska impacted by recent flooding will provide Individual Assistance in: Boyd, Burt, Cass, Dakota, Dixon, Douglas, Knox, Sarpy and Washington Counties. Individuals and businesses that sustained damages are now eligible to apply for and receive federal disaster aid. There are several ways to register:

- Online at www.DisasterAssistance.gov.
- By smartphone through **m.FEMA.gov**, click on “Apply Online for FEMA Assistance.”
- By phone, call toll-free at **800-621-FEMA (3362)**.
 - Espanol Oprima 2
- Those with a speech disability or hearing loss, who use a TTY, should call **800-462-7585**;
 - or use 711 or Video Relay Service (VRS) to call **800-621-3362**.

Anyone with damage must register with FEMA in order to receive federal disaster assistance. Even though individuals may have applied for assistance with the USDA, filed a claim with the U.S. Corps of Engineers, received assistance from local voluntary agencies or have called the NEMA flood hotline to report their damage, they still need to register with FEMA for federal disaster assistance.

NEMA Continues to Monitor Flood Conditions

The Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) remains activated in response to ongoing flooding issues across the state. NEMA is collecting damage reports and monitoring flood conditions along the Missouri and Platte rivers and providing assistance to local emergency management officials in the flood- and storm-affected counties on a 24-hour basis. **The NEMA Flood Hotline** is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays at **(855) 211-2453**. Flood and storm damage reports can be submitted at:

<http://www.nema.ne.gov/newsroom/home-damage-contact.html>

No Changes National Guard -- Eight **Nebraska National Guardsmen** are supporting the Joint Operations Center, the State Emergency Operation Center as operations transition to local authorities.

NO CHANGES Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR) Recommended alternate routes:

To and from Kansas: use **Highway 77** out of Lincoln and **Highway 81** out of York.

Across Nebraska: I-80 is expected to remain safe and dry route throughout the flooding months.

Strongly suggested route: If you are west of York on I-80 and intend to travel north on I-29 at Council Bluffs, consider taking **Highway 81** north at York to I-90 in South Dakota thus avoiding detour traffic in Iowa.

Avoid Highway 75 because of existing construction projects, lane closures and flood mitigation operations.

Avoid Highway 77 north of Lincoln because of delays due to bridge construction near Fremont.

NO CHANGES Road Closures Call 511 or check online at www.roads.ne.gov/flood/ or www.511.nebraska.gov

Highway 2 is closed from Nebraska City east into Iowa due to water covering the road on the Iowa side.

Highway 12 is closed east of Niobrara from the east edge of Niobrara to the Santee Spur. A west section of **Highway 12** is also closed from Verdel to approximately three miles west of Niobrara.

Highway 14/37 is closed from the junction with **Highway 12** to the Nebraska-South Dakota border (Standing Bear Bridge). **Highway 14** is open going south from the junction of **Highway 12**.

Highway 175 at the Decatur Missouri River Crossing to Iowa is closed due to erosion of the bridge embankment on the Iowa side. Officials will evaluate the erosion and determine if work can be done to enable the bridge to reopen.

Highway 136 is closed from Brownville east into Missouri due to water topping a levee on the Missouri side.

Highway 159 is closed from Rulo as it runs east into Missouri. Closure is due to levee break on the Missouri side of Big Lake which resulted in water over the road on the Missouri side.

I-680 into Iowa is closed due to I-680 in Iowa being covered by flood waters.

UPDATED River Levels — The National Weather Service Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service lists four flood categories at <http://www.crh.noaa.gov/lbf/> From highest to lowest: those categories are: **Major Flood Stage, Moderate Flood Stage, Flood Stage and Action Stage**. Sites in Nebraska that are at Action Stage or above as of today according to the National Weather Service Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service are:

North Platte River

Henry, 5.17 feet — at Action Stage which is 4.5 feet, Flood stage is 5.5 feet

Lewellen, 7.29 feet — at Action Stage which 6 feet, Flood Stage is 7.5 feet

North Platte, 6.88 feet — at Flood Stage which is 6 feet

Platte River

Brady, 6.78 feet — at Action Stage which is 6 feet, Flood Stage I 7.5 feet

Missouri River

Verdel, 28.03 feet — is at Major Flood Stage which is 26 feet

Niobrara, 25.76 feet — is at Major Flood Stage which is 24 feet

South Sioux City, 32.96 feet — is at Flood Stage which is 30 feet

Decatur, 39.91 feet — is at Moderate Flood Stage which is 38 feet

Blair, 30.22 feet — is at Moderate Flood Stage which is 28.5

Omaha, 34.14 feet — is at Moderate Flood Stage which is 32 feet

Plattsmouth, 33.26 feet — is at Moderate Flood Stage which is 31 feet

Nebraska City, 22.61 feet — is at Flood Stage which is 18 feet,

Brownville, 37.84 feet — is at Moderate Flood Stage which is 37 feet

Rulo, 23.37 feet — is at Moderate Flood Stage which is 21 feet



[List of County Emergency Managers](#)

[List of Nebraska Local Health Departments](#)

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